Being now, after a sojourn of nearly four years in thi great and prosperous sisterhood of Republics, on the point of returning to my own beloved country, I cannot leave these enlightened and hospitable shores without indulging myself in a final and most affectionate farewell to the United Statesa country to whose generosity and kindness I am so deeply indebted. Wherever I go I shall never cease to carry with me the warmest recollections of all the proofs of regard and acts of personal courtesy which have been extended to an ling foreigner in every portion of her wide domain. I loved America before I saw it. I have many reasons to love it yet more, since seeing it with my own eyes and ex-

things important that it should be sheltered from every appearance of commercial business, and secured against all possibility of imposition, speculation, or bribery. To this end it is necessary to give its transactions publicity; to remove them wholly from all private touch and all individual interest. The system was devised for nations, not for individuals; hence all its doings, in all its departments, must have "an odor of nationality" about them; they must be the manufacture of public bodies and public men for the public. the transactions of public bodies and public men for the public

I have thought that one of the best modes of attaining this object would be the appointment in each State of the Union of a Select Standing Committee, who should have the care and custody of the State library, (where such a thing exists, and I trust it will soon be found in every State, ) and be charged with the conduct of exchanges, domestic and foreign. Such committees should be appointed under State legislative authority, by the Governor, or by some other public functionary as far above and removed from the influence of mere party politics as may be, and should be selected, without the least reference to political opinion, from men alone of distinguished character, and interested in the progress of science and of social improvement. Such State Committee would be in correspondence with the Central Agency at Paris, and would communicate to it from time to time the infellectua wants of the various scientific and literary establishments the State, furnishing at the same time lists of such works and objects of science, art, and natural history as they might possess or be able to control for purposes of exchange. A college library, for example, containing duplicate copies or copies not used of any valuable work, might send to such mittee a list of their duplicates, which they would be glad to spare in the hope of receiving other works in exchange, which were set down on a second list furnished to the same committee, and containing a statement of the books they most needed. Here would be opened at once a ready channel by which the wants of the learned on either side of the Atlantic, or in different quarters of your own country, might mutually be made known to each other, many of which wants, to say the least, might thereupon be quickly, and without any new purchase by either party, supplied. This has been done by Harvard University, whose duplicate volumes have been sent to the agency at Paris for pur-poses of exchange. But, to guard against abuses, it should be established as an inflexible rule that no exchanges shall be effected by pecuniary means, unless in special cases, to be specifically provided for by State authority. All books, maps, engravings, statues, &c. passing through the hands of the standing committee ought to be the results of exchanges of a similar nature; and where individuals wish to transmit of a similar nature; and where individuals wish to transmit such things as tokens of respect and good will, without seeking any return, or where learned men desire to exchange scientific reports or communications, this also should be done through the committee alone—no intercourse with private individuals being known to the system or permitted by its regulations. No objects should be allowed to be transmitted through the central agency abroad or through the standing committees here without having an ostensible indelible mark, obvious to the eye, indicating them as belonging to the System of International Exchange, and therefore PUBLIC PROPERTY.

When this is enforced as a sine qua non, any private individual International Exchange, and therefore PUBLIC PROPERTY.
When this is enforced as a sine qua non, any private individual having an object in his possession with that mark upon it could be held to account for the manner in which it came into could be held to account for the manner in which it came his hands, and be compelled to give it up for the public ends for which it was committed to the action of the system. Books with this mark, if on a bookseller's shelves, might at once be seized as fraudulently come by.

Where a college or university finds itself in want of any

Where a college or university finds itself in want of any rare or expensive European work, even though it have at present no work of equivalent value to transmit in exchange, it need not be deterred, on that account, from taking advantage of the system to let its want be supplied. It would have only to signify that want to the Executive of the State, or to the chairman of the standing Committee of Exchange, and its wishes will be immediately communicated to the Central Agency at Paris, by which, if the desired work be attainable, it will be readily propured as early as practicable, and transit will be readily procured, as early as practicable, and transmitted to to the committee here. The work so obtained will be State property, and will ever so centinue; but, on its arrival, the committee can transmit it, as a loan, for the use of the university, where it may remain and be used, not as the property of the university, but as entrusted to its care by the

If snother wishes to make a donation of his works to college abroad or within the Union, the committee would re-ceive and transmit them according to his direction, with the condition, however, that, once placed in their hands, his pri-vate right in the books ceased, and they must be transmitted

vate right in the books ceased, and they must be transmitted and held as public property, be they sent where they may. If sent to a college in Virginia, they would be the property of Virginia; if to a society or institution in Massachusetts, they would become the property of Massachusetts.

To guard against all possibility, on the part of the Central Agency, of taking improper advantage of the liberality of those Governments which may determine to admit, free of duty, objects destined for international exchange, it is indispensable that all the operations of the Central Agency shall be placed under the supervision of the officers of Government. This has been accordingly done; and, thanks to the enlightened liberality of the American and the French Governments, it is provided that all objects coming to or proceeding from it is provided that all objects coming to or proceeding from the Central Agency are to be transmitted, on this side of the Atlantic, by the Collector of the Port of New York, and from France by the Commissary General of the Marine, at Havre. Security from fraud and abuse will be rendered still more

complete by the annual report, required from the Agency, to the Joint Committee of the Library of Congress, as also to the Governors of such States as enter into the arrangements of the system. This will not only serve as a check on agents of the system. This will not only serve as a check on agents who might be disposed to be unfaithful, but the detailed account required and given in such reports of all property received, and of its disposition, will furnish to the various institutions connected with the plan, and who have availed themselves of its aid, the means of ascertaining, on inspection, whether the several objects delivered by them have reached their destination; what has been given in exchange; and what other objects are awaiting the operation of the sys-tem, and ready to be mutually exchanged.

The above measures have seemed to me those best calcu-

lated to give purity, efficiency, and permanency to the system to secure its practical utility, and thus acquire to it the public confidence. Its end—its sole end—is TO DO SOOD TO ALL, WHILE IT INJURES NONE: any other or further suggestions tending to enable it the better to attain this end will ever t

thankfully received.

In the practical working of such a system, embracing, a it already does, so large a portion of the civilized world, and calculated by its simple yet comprehensive provisions to ex-pand itself over the whole family of nations, it will naturally happen that, as relates to any two of them, the advantages will be more important on one ride one year, and on the other side the next. No matter if they are: in the progress of the system, and of intellectual improvement, the balance may, at a subsequent time, preponderate the other way. All that is important in the matter is that the exchanges continue, that they develop their benefits, and that, from habit, as well as from a conviction of those advantages, the system

a frequent and mutual exchange of the fruits of science and improvement, a perpetually recurring interchange of kindly and generous acts and mementoes of good will, is calculated to annihilate the causes of estrangement, and make men in the remotest opposite extremities of this vast and wide country feel that they live in each other's remembrance; that they are prosecuting kindred studies, cultivating similar tastes, interested in the exact discoveries, and common spices by all the

with its capabilities of good.

And here I cannot forbear alluding to an establishment of recent origin, but already of the highest promise, in which I feel a deep and peculiar interest, and which it has been my fondest ambition to see splendid and flourishing. I mean our public LIBBARY OF AMERICA, founded in the Hotel de Ville, public Libbary of America, founded in the Hotel de Ville, in the city of Paris, under the exclusive control of the municipal council of that metropolis. A noble apartment in that vast building has been devoted to the reception and accumulation of works solely American. They are there to be arranged in separate alcoves, bearing the respective names of the States from which they come, while one compartment is devoted to the contributions of the General Government of the United States. If any thing is calculated to excite a thrill of national pride in the breast of an American abroad, it is this total pride in the breast of an American abroad, it is this power casts its living victims. Such representations say to States. If any thing is calculated to excite a thrill of national pride in the breast of an American abroad, it is this display before the eyes (I may truly say the astonished eyes) of the lovers of science, in that her great metropolis, of the products of the genius and intellectual progress of his country. The scholars of France and literary strangers in Paris lacves are filling up. The Federal Government itself, sixteen of the States of the Union, the cities of Boston, New York, Washington, Baltimore, Hartford, New Haven, Providence, and Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleanard Portland, have already brought to a pleanard pleanard Portland, have already brought to a pride placed in the infernal regions, and into which which its has placed in the infernal regions, and into which which its has placed in the infernal regions, and into which which its has placed in the infernal regions, and into which which its has placed in the infernal regions, and into which which its has display before the eyes (I may truly say the astonished eyes) of the lovers of science, in that her great metropolis, of the products of the genius and intellectual progress of his country. The scholars of France and literary strangers in Paris have witnessed with glad surprise the rapidity with which its alcoves are filling up. The Federal Government itself, sixteen of the States of the Union, the cities of Boston, New York, Washington, Baltimore, Hartford, New Haven, Providence, and Portland, have already brought to it with pride and pleasure their patriotic offerings; while Adams, Sparks, Prescott, Everett, Longfellow, President Quincy, Washington Irving, Lieutenant Maury, Professor Bache, Mrs. Sigourney, Mrs. Judge Story, (carrying out, as she states, what she knew to be the wish of her deceased husband,) C. Fennimore Cooper, General Scott, and many other of the distinguished men of your country, have contributed to enrich it guished men of your country, have contributed to enrich it with the fruits of their own genius or the treasures of their literary collections. Most of the colleges and universities of the Union have there the mementoes of their enlightened li-berality. Nor can I forbear to state, to their honor, that the students of the University of Virginia have contributed from their private funds a handsome pecuniary donation, appropria-ted to the purchase for it of books written by Virginians and printed in Virginia, and have also addressed an appeal to the young men of their country in behalf of an object so worthy r patronage. May this touching example of the feeling

I sm sensible that I owe an apology for the length of this address, (so much greater than I had anticipated.) My hope of pardon arises from the reflection that it is my last, and that I had much to say.

In bidding farewell to a country to which I have already

levoted twelve entire years of a not inactive life, I can, with all truth and confidence, utter the assurance that so long as it pleases God that that poor life shall continue, I shall continue to work for her people with the same ardor and devotion which have been manifested during my whole stay among nue to work for her people with the same ardor and devotion which have been manifested during my whole stay among them. As I was, at the first, free and disinterested in devoting myself to their advantage, and have never for a moment wavered in that purpose, so I shall continue to cherish it and to act upon it to my latest hour. Meanwhile, in parting from them, probably forever, I leave in trust with every true-hearted and enlightened American first the fate of my beloved system, and then my own honor, confident that among those who have known me from the first, and been eye-witnesses of my labors, I shall never want zealous and ready defenders against attacks which may arise from a want of the like known. my labors, I shall never want zealous and ready defenders against attacks which may arise from a want of the like know-ledge of my motives and of the spirit in which I have acted. Personal enemies I should hope I have none; and my parting prayer to the Almighty is that there may survive in no bosom other feelings than those which have ever animated my own—love of humanity and the desire of doing good. Farewell!

ALEXANDER VATTEMARE.

as all interests, as connected with the system of exchange, will only be stimulated by my having been deprived of the pleasaure of psying them my personal respects.

A. V.

DEATH OF JUDGE WILSON.

JAKES WILSON as the learn from the Herold, Judge Wilson travely the learn from the Herold, Judge Wilson was about town, in bis sustal bealth and sprint. He died after about twelve hours' severe suffering from the fast attack of the disease.

Judge Wilson is a well known and distinguished ciffern of Ohio. He was temporarily editor of the Aurora, in Phistalelphia, while Col. Duane resumed his station in the editor. My liven removed to Steubernills, Ohio, and because the proprietor and editor of the Western Herold, which collines were been proprietor and editor of the Western Herold, which the continued to spelling from the came the proprietor and editor of the Western Herold, which the continued to spelling from the came the proprietor and editor of the Western Herold, which the continued to spelling from gone than twenty five years.

The paper had prior to that time been published by Col. John Miller, of the 19th Registent of Instatry—the seating and one of the Registers of Instatry—the seating herosaw who distinguished himself at Fort Meigs, and on several other coasions during the war with Grest Britain, and was afterwards Governor of Missouri and one of the Registers of Instatry—the sent manufactory of broadclots to these conditioned to publish for gone than twenty five years.

As a 'leading man in public affairs, "Judge Wilson was gone and the proposed and externed the town of the proposed of morals, wound principles, and principles, and in the condition of the proposed and the pro

shall ultimately become identified with the free and liberalizing institutions which mark the age. The more it prevails, the more will those kind and benevolent relations of courtesy, sympathy, and true fraternity be strengthened and multiplied, to the advancement of civilization, the progress of science, and the maintenance of harmony and peace among the nations of the world. To give with joy, and to except with grantfully, is the fundamental law of our system.

Were it extended to domestic exchanges alone, its benefits would be great, and, to a country like this, invaluable. If vigorously and generally prosecuted, what can be better cally or religion, have one tendancy in common the country like this, invaluable. would be great, and, to a country like this, invaluable. If vigorously and generally prosecuted, what can be better calculated to cherish a fraternal feeling among all the people of this great American family? "Mountains interposed make enemies of nations;" but a constant and friendly intercourse, a frequent and mutual exchange of the fruits of science and other. Steam and magnetism are both enlisted by the two and serve each with equal fidelity.

Great Britain, standing between the two other giants, and

jealous of the increasing power of each, complicates the present and future. That future is approaching with mighty consequences, and while we await what coming years must

I loved America before I saw it. I have many reasona to dove it yet more, since seeing it with my own cyes and experiencing in so liberal a degree its feelings of good will. I leave it now, probably for the last time; but the rememberance of both my vitis will ever be associated in my heart to be seed to make all Americans doubty one; one in the remote of both my vitis will ever be associated in my heart to be seed to the seed and most grateful emotions; and should I meet in the Old World an enemy of America, I will say to him, "Go there, and you will be her enemy no longer."

But it is known to all who take the least interest in one as humble as myself that all my thoughts, anxieties, and the arts. Bonaparte opened in the Tuleries a var produce, let us cast our view retrospectively and scan the roll of the seed as the seed as a var produce, let us cast our view retrospectively and scan the roll of the seed of the se

fidence, give a very different aspect to the political, civil, and criminal law and Government of Russia from what is gene rally believed in Western Europe and the United States. The present communication will contain a free translation of the letter on the transportation of criminals, &c. :

Paris, March 12, 1839. Paris, March 12, 1839.

To speak frankly, sir, I feel under great embarrassment, because I wish to give at once an opinion I have long since formed, and which may appear very paradoxical to you. I am fully convinced that the transportation of criminals into Siberia is one of the most beautiful penal institutions of Russia, and a very great means that the public power has put in operation for the regeneration of a new people, and for the establishment of civilization in the wilderness of Northern Asia. But how can I, in face of all the exaggerations and horrible tales arread over Western Europe on this subject. no reparation, and then give to these outcasts means of me-lioration, physical and moral, and, in fine, make them useful

duced to an impartial narration.

The pain of death as punishment of crime, you know, sir, does not exist in Russia. It was abolished in the eighteenth century, and by that act Russia took the first step in that cayoung men of their contry in centar of a copiec sample of the feeling which glows in the proud bosoms of the youths of America awake their companions on every side to a noble emulation!

And, now, may I not with confidence and hope address my humble appeal to Americans, in all the walks of life, and especially to all who possess literary tastes and means, asking that, for America's sake, they will bring each their stone toward the erection of this monument of the genius and liberality of their country—a monument to peace, and one of the proudest certainly that could be raised to the true glory of a nation?

I bad prepared for the Joint Committee of the Library of Congress a complete catalogue of all the books thus far presented, either to the city of Paris or to the General System of International Exchange, to accompany the annual report which I am by law required to make to that body, and to be printed along with it; but, with a delicacy which speaks its own praise, the committee refused to have it printed, observing that it was not for them to publish what their country gives, but only to record what she receives. I feel very sure that France will fully reciprocate such a feeling, and will take care that the liberality of America shall not be left to oblivion.

I am sensible that I owe an apology for the length of this address my inches the rice and bumanity. It was a bolished in the eligited in the close the length of this and objected to by many practicable by so many philanthropists, and objected to by many practicable the sust in Russia. It was and obten the length of the confidence and bose that act Russia took the first step in that care to unreservedly applauded by so many philanthropists, and objected to by many practicable the sust insurance to full file the purposes set forth. But all must agree to the impolicy of repealing the law imposing the law

rate could not but shrink at a view of its terrible consequences?

Until 1822, sir, transportation to Siberia was conducted without much regularity; no general law having been promulgated before that epoch to determine the application of the principle. In 1822, under the administration of Count Speransky, at that time Governor of Siberia, and whose recent death Russia and every friend to hamanity over the earth has to lament, this law was promulgated, and has ever since regulated this service. The benefactions of the system have been immense, and the penal colonies of Siberia are now raised to a degree of prosperity exciting the most sanguine hopes of future grandeur.

The transports are sent from every point of the empire, ex-

The transports are sent from every point of the empire, cept from the provinces adjoining Siberia; the convicts from the latter are sent directly to Perm, and from thence join the the latter are sent directly to Perm, and from thence join the main column at Kazan, where, forming a single column, they set out for Tobolsk, which city was, to 1839, the seat of government for Western Siberia. It is there that after, to many of them, a journey of two thousand leagues, the whole united column is put into the hands of the administration of the transports, (cylny prikosse.) The duty of this administration is to form the convicts into classes, and to direct where their place of residence is to be fixed. According to the nature of their crimes and other circumstances the convicts are divided into five categories: first, those condemned to forced labor; second, artisans; third, domestics; fourth, colonists; fifth, those incapable of any labor.

The convicts of the first class are the most guilty, and con-

France, it is my purpose to stop for a few days in Baltimore, Wilmington, and Philadelphia, to take personal leave of my friends in those cities. It is to me a subject of sincere regret that, owing to the indispensable necessity of my speedy return home, it has not been in my power to comply with several very kind and urgent invitations from some of the distant. States of the Union to visit them. I beg all those from whom these flattering invitations have proceeded to accept my thanks for the distinguished honor thus conferred upon me, and to be assured that my future exertions in promoting their wishes and interests, as connected with the system of exchange, will only be stimulated by my having been deprived of the pleasure of paying them my personal respects.

A. V.

The convicts of the first class are the most guilty, and consequently are most harshly treated. Nevertheless, I have no doubt that, setting out of view the ideas of banishment, the long and painful journey that they have to make before reaching sliberia, and, in fine, the imaginary terrors added to reality, we cannot regard their punishment too severe to obtain the proper ends of striking salutary terror, and thus securing the only proper purpose of criminal justice. The duration of the punishment of those condemned to forced labor cannot, unless under some extraordinary circumstance well understood, exceed twenty years. This term completed, the convict is free, and takes rank amongst the colonists of Siberia, and has full choice of his place of residence. There, corrected by age, experience, and reflection, he sees a new life open to him, in which he may not a support that they have to make before reaching siberia, and, in fine, the imaginary terrors added to reality, we cannot regard their punishment too severe to obtain the proper ends of striking salutary terror, and thus securing the only proper purpose of criminal justice. The duration of the punishment of those condemned to forced labor cannot, and thus striking and the proper ends of stri The convicts of the first class are the most guilty, and

TO THE EDITORS.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 23, 1850.

There is one great political problem forcing itself forward for solution, and will not, for any great length of time, admit of remaining unsolved. The Anglo-Saxon nation of North America and the Sclavon-Russian of Europe and Asia, diverse as they are in principles of government, in language, or religion, have one tendency in common: that is, an almost instinctive motion towards the Pacific ocean. They are changing the face of two continents, and their improveance with sure and not slow advance, approaching each moderate to recommend in France, because I regard our criminals far too obdurate to justify the experiment. But to remine the counsels have had a great influence on the greatest number, and that it was only necessary to separate them from the cause of their dereliction, and place them in a position where a mild discipline gave them means and encouragement of amendment.

amendment.

After eight years of service these domestics may, if it suits them, quit the service in which they had been thus long employed, or they may remain, and thence receive the full amount of their wages. Many of them marry and become shop-keepers or traders.

The convict laborers compose the fourth class, and serve on the uncultivated frontiers of Siberia, in clearing up the lands and bringing into cultivation the naturally fertile soil. The necessary sums to enable them to form establishments are advanced by the Government, to be repaid in small sums, as the proceeds of their industry supply the means. Their labor, when arriving at the place of their destination, is to construct cabins for their residence. All the necessary material for the purpose is gratuitously placed at their disposel by the administration of the colony; farming implements are supplied from the same source. During the first year they and their families are fed and warmed in the same manner. I ought also, sir, to inform you that the Government, by a very wise measure, do not admit in this class of farmers only those who appear individually worthy of the indulgence; but beside that they are married persons. The Government appears to have felt, what is profoundly true, that the principle of village is not fulfilled only by union of hands but by union of families. The result is that the greatest number of the convicts thus placed, and who are not already married on their arrival in Siberia, solicit the permission to marry; and thus marriage and rural occupations operate a complete divorce from all occasions of bad conduct, and in a great mejority of cases are the means of an entire reformation of manners. When the time of their entire freedom arrives the convicts enter in the class of colonists, with all the rights of holding property in land, and passing it by hereditary right, under the same principles, rigorously speaking, which serve to pass from serf to citizen.

As to the fifth class, that of invalids or persons beyond sixty years

sixty years of sge, I have but few words to say. They are dispessed over the communes, where they are employed in such services as they can perform. The communes are charged

such services as they can perform. The communes are charged with their support and oversight.

From the preceding you may see, sir, the picture I have sketched has nothing very repulsive in its features. The intentions of Russian power, in the establishment of this penal system, were evidently what I have stated in the commencement of this communication. Were I to impute blame to the system, I would attach it rather to the overmildness than rigor. The government of all the convicts is confided to the authority established for that purpose at Tobolsk. There are a number of inspectors who are charged to make continual visits to Siberia, and to watch over and maintain good order, and particularly take care that youth receive proper education, and that strict legal justice be meted to all. They are to receive the complaints of the convicts, examine their demands, and, that strict legal justice be meted to all. They are to receive the complaints of the convicts, examine their demands, and, according to their conduct, soften their fate, and pass them from one class to another. It would appear as if the Government of Russia regarded the long pilgrimage performed on foot over so many provinces, and subject to the gaze of multitudes crowding to the great roads to see the passage of the sad column, as in good part a reparation sufficient for the crime, and that when arrived in Siberia the condemned are no longer criminals to punish, but colonists to maintain and place in the road to liberty and plenty—to marry and become

crease; that lands uncultivated since the creation are cleared and covered with harvests, houses, and towns, and a Russian nation extending in Asia. What was a principle of disorder in her European provinces, has become one of life and prosperity in her Eastern provinces. It is remarked how promptly the recent emigrants mingle with the indigenous inhabitants. To all these consoling effects the exceptions are rare, and the convicts—now colonists—forget, and their children forget, as do all the world beside, the cause of their establishment in

instruments to general society.

You will understand me, sir, that I by no means am to be un derstood as speaking here of arbitrary transportation for political causes, but of legal proceedings, as means of civil justice. In this case I only speak of the Recrutement of the Russian penal colonies of Siberia, as they assimilate to the penal colonies instituted by the English Government, and loudly applauded by the civilized world. And more, I shall, in order to simplify the subject, confine myself to a statement of fact. Thus the points of right are brought before the tribunal of common sames, where the most adroit pleader is reduced to an impartial narration.

These distant regions.

The chain of convicts in most cases depart weekly from the chief town of the Prefecture. Every thing is arranged to receive them on their route to Cazan. Each band is escorted by guardians of the public places of supply, and make generally from twenty to thirty versus (fourteen to twenty-one miles English) per day. Houses of supply have, at proper distances apart, been constructed, where at the public expense provision has been made for rest and all needful necessaries. Those who fall sick, or are otherwise rendered unfit to proceed on their route, are conveyed to the nearest prison until they recover or die. The superannuated and invalids are conveyed to their destination in carriages at the expense of the Province. Men and women proceed in separate columns, with each these distant regions.

The chain of convicts in most cases depart weekly from and ere not permitted to have any communication with each other. It is supposed that the number of women transported to Siberia from Russia, compared to men, is about one to

The wives of convicts are free to attend their husbands to their place of exile, and though by the laws of the empire the wife may, if she chooses, dissolve her marriage contract and marry another husband, it is very frequently seen that the wife with her children courageously perform this long and painful journey. The examples are very rare of any woman in Russia availing herself of the legal permission to which I have alluded; and nothing can equal this conjugal fidelity if it is not its touching simplicity. Women and children of the convicts, who attend the husband and father to his place of exile, are conveyed at the avenues of the Covarance. of exile, are conveyed at the expense of the Government.

I would rejoice to have it in my power to state the num-ber sent annually into exde, but I have sought in vain to obtain the proper data. To obtain such information is the more difficult from the fact already stated, that the convicts, after the termination of their legal service, are free, and henceforth are in nowise distinguishable from other peasants

henceforth are in nowise distinguished.

In conclusion, however, I may state that from the best sources of information afforded by Russian statists, Siberia is annually recruited by from fifteen to twenty thousand inhabitants. At the first glance this would appear a large number; but when we compare it with the immense regions of fertile deserts awaiting human babitation and culture, the number is reduced to a very limited supply.

Translated by WILLIAM DARBY.

Nore .-- The idea is very erroneous that the attention of Russia to the extension of her power and influence into Asia has been comparatively recent. On the 4th of April, 1692, E. Isbanel Ides, a Russian ambassador sent by Peter the Great, set out and visited China, and returned to Europe and made his report. A detailed description of China was written by a member of this embassy, an English translation of which is in the hands of Mr. Peter Force, of this city .- W. D.

## FOREIGN ITEMS.

Commander Forsyth, R. N., who has lately returned the Prince Albert from his search for Sir John Franklin, ar rived at Portsmouth October 11, from London, to have an in terview, by direction of the Admiralty, with Sir Enwand PARKY, the well-known Arctic voyager, (now superintendent of Haslar Hospital,) for the purpose of explaining to Sir Ed-ward every particular with reference to the ropes, canvass, stores, &c. found at Cape Riley, in order to ascertain his opinion as to whether they had belonged to one of her Majes ty's ships. The result is a decided conviction on Sir Edward Parry's part that they are traces of Sir John Franklin's expedition.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times says that more than one hundred thousand operatives have quitted France since the revolution of February, and that more than

THE AMERICAN WHALE AND SEAL FISHERIES.

From the report of Mr. James Arnold, made to a Convention of the friends of a Protective Tariff in 1843, we gather gome interesting particulars in regard to this branch of the fisheries. Six hundred and fifty ships are employed, measuring 193,000 tons, and manned by 16,500 men. These vessels, when ready for see, with their stock of provisions on board, are worth \$20,120,000. The returns in 1841 were \$7,359,022. After paying the lays of the men and the expenses of the voyage, there was left, as the profits on the \$20,000,000, \$4,585,634. The whale ships are owned by citizens exclusively, for the statutes of the United States expressly prohibit foreigners from entering into the whale fishery under the American flag. A singular case occurred in New Bedford about fifteen years ago. An individual who owned the sixteenth of a ship, became very indignant because in some particular the owners of the fifteen-sixteenths did not adopt his views. The ship was just ready for the South Seas. He sold for one dollar one half of his sixteenth to a little English tailor in the town, for the express purpose of effecting a forfeiture of the whole ship! He immediately caused information to be communicated to the custom-house officers, and had the vessel seized as she was about to weigh anchor.

The other owners at once filed their libel in Admiralty, setting forth the fraudulent sale and the illegal intent of the parties. While suit was pending, the self-willed owner became fearful that the affair would terminate in the forfeiture of his own part, and no more, and consented to sell out to the others at a fair price; and the federal officers consented to the cancelling of the pretended sale. We have spoken of the pecuniary value of the fisheries; but it is as a nursery for seamen that they are a subject of such interest and importance. Their dangers and hardships form the character of the American seamen.

from Macgregor's book we make an extract which de-

This is the prose :

"The Americans follow two or more modes of fitting ou for fisheries. The first is accomplished by six or seven farmers or their sons building a schooner during winter, which they man themselves, (as all the Americans on the seacoast are more or less seamen as well as farmers,) and, after fitting the vessel with necessary stores, they proceed to the Banks, Gulf of St. Lawrence, or Labrador, and, loading these vessels with figh make a veyser between spring and harvest. The

g the vessel with necessary stores, they proceed to the Banks, Gulf of St. Lawrence, or Labrador, and, loading their vessels with fish, make a voyage between spring and harvest. The proceeds they divide, after paying any balance they may owe of for outfit. They remain at home to assist in gathering their crops, and proceed again for another cargo—which is salted down, and not afterwards dried: this is termed the mud-fish, and kept for home consumption. The other plan is, when a merchant, or any other person owning a vessel, lets her to ten or fifteen men on shares, he finds the vessel and nots; the men pay for all the provisions, hooks, and lines, and for the salt necessary to cure their proportion of the fish. One of the number is acknowledged master, but he has to catch fish as well as the others, and reserves about twenty shillings per month for navigating the vessel; the crew have five-eighths of the fish caught, and the owners three-eighths of the fish caught, and the owners three-eighths of the fish caught, and the owners three-eighths of the Banks; the second, either to the Banks, Gulf of St. Lawrence, or the Coast of Labrador; the third, or fall voyage, is again to the Banks; and a fourth, or second fall voyage, is also made sometimes to the Banks.\*

From the Pilgrim address of Mr. Prentiss, we give the same fact, but adorned with all the ornaments that a gorgeous

same fact, but adorned with all the ornaments that a gorgeous imagination could throw over the subject. This is the poetry of the sailor's life:

"They drive the Dryads from their accustomed haunts,

and force them to desert each favorite grove; for upon river, creek, and bay they are busy transforming the rude forest into stanch and gallant vessels. From every inlets or indenture stanch and gailant vessels. From every inlet: or indenture along the rocky shore swim forth these ocean birds—bornsin the wild wood, fledged upon the wave. Behold how they spread their white pinions to the favoring breeze, and wing their flight to every quarter of the globe—the carrier pigeons of the world! It is upon the unstable element the sone of New England have achieved their greatest triumphs. Their adventurous prows vex the waters of every sea. Bold and elentless as the old Northern Vikins, they go forth to seek relentless as the old Northern Vikins, they go forth to seek their fortunes in the mighty deep. The ocean is their pasture, and over its white prairies they follow the monstrous therds that feed upon the azure fields. As the hunter casts his lasso upon the wild horse, so they throw their lines upon the tumbling whale. They 'draw out the Leviathan with a hook;' they 'fill his skin with barbed iron;' and, in spite of his terrible strength, they 'part him among the merchants.' To them there are no 'pillars of Hercules.' They seek with avidity new regions, and fear not to be 'the first that ever burst into unknown seas.' Had they been the companions of Columbus, the great mariner would not have been urged to return, though he had sailed westward to his dying day."

Macgregor also furnishes a graphic description of the Seal Fishery, with which we conclude this article. We think the term of "Codfish Aristocracy" need not be deemed so very offensive, after all: ffensive, after all :

solutely necessary.

\*\* The Seal Fishery, as it is generally termed, has only be-"The Seal Fishery, as it is generally termed, has only become important within the present century. It is little more than thirty years since the first vessels ventured among those formidable fields of ice that float from the Northern regions during the months of March, April, and May down to the coast of Newfoundland. Those who are acquainted with the terrific grandeur, particularly during stormy weather, of the lofty islands and mountains of ice, covering often from two hundred to three hundred miles of the ocean, and occasionally arrested by the coasts or shoals, will admit that it requires more intrepidity to brave the dangers of these elements than to encounter a military fortification.

encounter a military fortification.

"The vessels equipped for the seal fishery are from 60 to 120 tons each, with crews of from sixteen to thirty men. They are always prepared for sea, with necessary stores, fire-arms, poles to defend them from the ice, etc., before the feast of Saint Patrick. Immediately after, the crews at the haror Saint Patrice. Immediately after, the crews at the har-bors, then frezen over, collect together, with all assistance from the shoremen, and dividing themselves into two rows on the ice, and provided with hatchets, large saws, and strong oles, fix on two lines far enough separate to allow the largest schooners to pass.
"Each party cuts along its respective line, and they divide

the solid mass between them into squares, which are shoved with poles under the firm ice, continuing this laborious operation until a channel is open to the sea. The vessels then proceed to the field-ice, pushing their way through the openings, or working to windward of it, until they meet it covered

ings, or working to windward of it, until they meet it covered with vast herds of seal.

"Where these occur, the part on which they are is called seal meadows." These animals are surprised by the seal-hunters while they are sleeping on the ice, and attacked with fire locks, or with strong bludgeons, which are considered preferable. But the hunters have frequently to shoot the large ones, which will turn upon the men and make resistance. The piteous mean and cry of the young ones during the slaughter, require more than common nerves to discovered. slaughter, require more than common nerves to disregard. The hooded seals will draw their hoods, which are shot-proof,

over their heads.
"Thin skins, with the fat surrounding the The sains, with the fat surrounding the bodices, are shipped off together, and the scalped carcasses left on the ice. The pelts, or scalps, are carried to vessels, and packed close in the hold; but the weather often is such as to leave no time to scalp the seal on the ice, and the carcasses are then carried whole to the vessel.

"The situation of these vessels during the storms of snow

"The situation of these vessels during the storms of snow and sleet, which they have at that season inevitably to encounter, is attended with fearful danger. Many vessels have been crushed to pieces by the tremendous power of the ice closing on them, and their crews have also not unfrequently perished. Storms during the night, among the ice, must be truly terrible; yet the hardy Newfoundland seal hunters seem even to court these sublime and hazardous adventures.

"When the vessels are loaded with scalps, or if unsuccessful when the ice is scattered and all except the islands

cessful, when the vessels are loaded with scarps, or it dissolved by the heat of the advancing summer, they return to their respective ports. Some vessels, which succeed soon after meeting the ice in filling up a cargo, make a second

voyage.

"The fat, or seal-blubber, is separated from the skins, cut into pieces, and put into frame-work vats, through which, and small boughs inside, the oil cozes on being exposed to the sun. In three or four weeks it runs rapidly off, and becomes

the seal oil of commerce.

"The planters sell their seal pelts to the merchants, who manufacture the oil and ship it off in hogsheads. Seals are still caught at Newfoundland and Labrador, on the plan first adopted, by strong nets set across such narrow channels as they are in the habit of passing through."

[Mr. Frost, in N. O. Crescent.

BURNING OF THE PINE WOODS .- The Alexandria (La.) BURNING OF THE PINE WOODS.—The Alexandria (La.)

Western Democrat of the 9th says: "We regret to learn that on Saturday last Mr. W. L. Sandford's negro quarters, on Bayou Rapides, were totally destroyed by fire, besides four negro children, who perished in the flames. Mrs Overton's beautiful pine woods opposite this place, where the fire has been raging for three weeks, the residence of Dr. Maddox, besides a good deal of fencing and outhouses belonging to different individuals, have also been destroyed. The fire is still spreading with great rapidity through these woods, and until we have a good shower of rain but little hope remains of subduing it.

Messra McBride and Crooks were tried at the Superior Court of Forsythe county, North Carolins, week before last, on a charge of circulating abolition documents. Crooks was acquitted. McBride was found guilty, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment, to stand in the pillory one hour, and to receive twenty lashes. He appealed to the Supreme Court. AFRICAN TRADE AND PRODUCTIONS

FROM DEBO "'S (NEW ORLEANS) REVIEW The value of the commerce of Africa to the United States is steadily and rapidly advancing, and needs but encouragement from our Government to make it in a few years as valuable to our country as that of Great Britain was twenty

able to our country as that of Great Dinam was twenty years ago.

During the last ten or fifteen years great discoveries have been made in and about Africa, and many new and important facts brought to light. In addition to the numerous eligible points on the coast, occupied by slave traders, the French have had for some time a settlement on the Senegal, and have recently taken possession of the Gaboon region; the Danes are on the Rio Volta; the Dutch on the gold coast; the Portuguese at Loengo; the Americans at Liberia—now formed into an independent Republic, with laws modelled after our and the English at Sierra Leone, in the Gambia, and

into an independent Republic, with laws modelled after our own—and the English at Sierra Leone, in the Gambis, and on the gold coast.

From the results of these colonies and the testimony of travellers, such as Park, Lander, Laird, Clapperton, Burekhart, McQueen, Buncan, and others, we are afforded evidence that nature has scattered her bounties with the most lavish hand, and that what is required to make them available to the noblest purposes is a legitimate commerce, sustained by our rulers and directed by honorable men.

Among the productions of the soil may be named:

Grain.—Rice, Indian corn, Guinea corn, millett, wheat,

Grain.—Rice, Indian corn, Guinea corn, millett domah, &c.

Rruits.—Oranges, lemons, limes, guavas, pines, pepaws, plantains, bananas, dates, tamarinds, and plum, &c.

Roots.—Manioc, igneme, batalee, yams, casseda root, ginger, sweet potato, beans, peas, &c.

Minber.—Teak, ebony, lignuments, rosewood, of hogany, and forty or fifty other species of wood, sui all purposes.

all purposes.

Nuts.—Palm nut, shea or butter nut, cocoa Nuts.—Palm nut, shea & Dutter nut, cocca nut, com nut, croton nut, castor oil nut, netta nut, peanut, &c.

Dyes.—Carmine, yellow various shades, blue, orange various shades, red, crimson, brown, &c.

Dyewoods —Camwood, barwood, &c.

Gums.—Copal, Senegal, mastic, sudan, &c.

Druga.—Aloes, Cassia, senna, frankincense, copaira, &c.

Minerals.—Gold, iron, copper, emery, sal america nitre. &c.

Minerals.—Goto, 1009, coppes,
nitre, &c.

Miscellaneous.—Sugar cane, coffee, cocos, cotton, indigo,
tobacco, India rubber, beeswax, ostrich feathers, hides, skins,
ivory, pepper of all varieties, spices, hemp, honey, &c.

In the animal kingdom I find that, in addition to the wild
beasts which infest its forests and occupy its swamps, and
whose skins, teeth, and horns are valuable as articles of com-

whose skins, teeth, and horns are valuable as articles of commerce, immense herds of cattle, incalculable in number, range its plains. Hides, therefore, to almost any amount, may be obtained. Sheep and goat skins, of a very large kind, are equally numerous and very valuable. Fish of all kinds visit the shores and rivers in innumerable shoals, and are easily taken in large quantities during the proper season.

The mineral kingdom has not been explored, but enough is known to show that the precious metals abound, particularly gold. This is found throughout the known regions of Africa, in beds of rivers and in mines. Dupuis and Bowditch speak of the "solid lumps of rock gold" which ornament the persons of the attendants in the Court of the King of Ashantee, at Goomassie. Mrs. Bowditch says the great men will frequently, on state occasions, so load their wrists with these lumps that they are obliged to support them on the head of a boy.

The iron ore found near Sierra Leone is particularly rich, yielding seventy-nine per cent., and is said to be well adapted to making steel. Copper is so abundant in Mayomba that they gather from the surface of the ground enough for their purposes.

purposes.

A few words on the productiveness of the soil. It has bee A few words on the productiveness of the soil. It has been proved that two crops of corn, sweet potatoes, and several other vegetables can be and are raised in a year. They yield a larger crop than the best soils in America. One acre of rich land, well tilled, says Governor Ashmun, will produce three hundred dollars worth of indigo. Half an acre may be made to grow half a ton of arrow root. Four acres laid out in coffee plants will, after the third year, produce a clear income of two or these handred dollars. Half an acre of cotton trees, yielding cotton of an equal, if net superior, length and strength of staple and fineness and color than fair "Orleans," will clothe a whole family, and one acre of canes will make the same number independent of all the world for sugar. The dyes in particular are found to resist both acids and light, properties which no other dyes that we know of possess.

In the year 1849, 39 British vessels arrived at Cape Coast. Since that time the trade has been gradually improving. The last year's report, which we have received, sets down the imports into Cape Coast as amounting to £423,170 sterling, and the exports as £325,008 sterling. The imports during the same period into Asia were £95,000, and the exports £115,000 sterling. The total export of British merchandise to Africa is at present estimated at £5,000,000 sterling per annum.

to Africa is at present estimated at £5,000,000 sterling pe

The average import of palm oil alone into Liverpool, for some years past, has been at least 15,000 tons a year, valued at about £400,000 sterling, and giving employment to 25,000 foundland is that of pursuing and catching the inhabitants of the ocean. If habit, as is generally allowed, becomes nature, the Newfoundlanders are naturally, from their pursuits, certainly the most adventurous and fearless men in the world.

some years past, has been at least 15,000 tons a year, vast about £400,000 sterling, and giving employment to 25 or 30,000 tons of shipping. The imports into the Reptof Liberia are estimated by an American (white) physic who has spent six years there, at \$120,000 per annum, the exports as reaching very nearly the same amount. the exports as reaching very nearly the same amount. The commerce of our own country with Africa is daily becoming an important item. The principal seats of this trade are Salem, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhede Island. New York occasionally sends, while our city has at the present time five sail of brigs and barques actively and profitably employed. One of our merchants stated that he cleared \$12,000 in one year on the single article of ground or peanuts. Strange as it may appear, nearly all these nuts are transhipped to France, where they command a ready sale, are there converted into, and thence find their way over the world in the shape of olive oil—the skill of the French chemists enabling them to simulate the real Lucca and Florence oil so as to deceive the nicest judges. Indeed, the oil from peanuts possesses a sweetness and delicacy not to be surpassed.

While we greatly regret that there are no means of acquiring proper and correct information of the commerce of Africa,

While we greatly regret that there are no means of acquiring proper and correct information of the commerce of Africa, yet we presume, from the facts we have already given, that there are at least 160,000,000 of inhabitants in that continent, the whole of whom are not only willing but anxious to exchange the various products of their prolific soil for the dry goods, powder, rum, beads, pipes, tobacco, lead bars, iron bars, hardware, glassware, earthenware, breasware, cowries, soap, flints, tallow and sperm candles, wines, beef, pork, lard, flour, meal, hams, tongues, biscuit, crackers, perfumery, and the meel, hams, tongues, biscuit, crackers, perfumery, and the thousand other articles produced by the skill and industry of

cour citizens.

So important and valuable has this rapidly increasing commerce become to Great Britain\* that we cannot but notice the great efforts which have been made, and are making, by that Power to secure all the trade of Africa to her merchants. In addition to the aid given to various enterprising travellers, and the enormous expense borne by her in keeping up a large and efficient squadron on the coast, and in sustaining her colonies there, we behold her pouring forth immense sums of money on the celebrated "Niger expedition;" in sending Mr. Duncan to negotiate a treaty with the powerful King of Dahemey; and in the ready acknowledgment of the independence of the Republic of Liberia—entering immediately into a treaty of commerce and amity—and the kind attention shown President Roberts during his brief stay in that country.

It therefore well becomes our Government to awaken themselves to the importance of the African trade. Ours are emphatically a commercial people, and, to enable them to enter into competitions with the English traders, demands the earliest and most serious attention. ur citizens.

\*Since writing the foregoing, information has been received by the steamer America. \*\* that it is in contemplation by some Liverpool merchants—with every prospect of success—to form an African Company, with a capital of £100,000, in 2,000 shares of £50 each, for the purpose of trade with Africa." ASTONISHING YILLD OF CORN .- We clip the following

om the list of premiums, &c. awarded at the Lexingto

(Ky.) Fair:

Corn.—Yield, per acre, of ten acres; premium to James Matson, of Bourbon county; certificate to Peter Pean, of Clarke. Nine entries.

The following are the quantities raised by the several persons who contended for the prize:

More OUTRAGES IN ARKANSAS.—The Van Buren In-More Outrages in Arkarsas.—The Van Buren Intelligencer says: "An intelligent gentleman in Mariom county writes us that the 'Everett clan' are again in arms and disturbing the peace. It will be remembered that the militis, under Gen. Wood, were employed last summer in suppressing this clan. Our correspondent states that there exists an organized clan, extending from Yellville into Scarcy county, numbering over fifty desperate men, and backed by twice that number. Mr. Tutt was killed by one of the clan, and Major Hensiey was shot at by another, who escaped unburt. In both cases the attacks came from behind blinds, fixed up for the purpose. It is to be hoped that these unlawful proceedings will be put down by military force."